

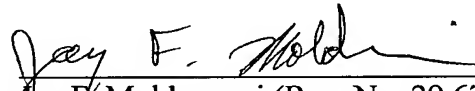
REMARKS

By the above amendments, Applicant has added a new paragraph to the specification, canceled claims 1-26 and added new claims 27-52 for consideration on the merits. Accordingly, remaining in the application are independent claim 27 with its dependent claims 28-31; independent claim 32 with its dependent claims 33-38; independent claim 39 with its dependent claims 40-46; and independent claim 47 with its dependent claims 48-52.

Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the subject application as currently amended and earnestly solicits an early indication of allowability. If any minor matter can be resolved or any of the foregoing clarified by a telephone call, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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